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Towards a Durable Peace - Europe and U.S. II

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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I am ~~angry, sad and~~ disturbed ^{at} the treatment accorded Vice President Nixon by certain elements in Peru. The sadistic exhibition by the demonstrators was not an attack on Nixon but was an attack on the office which he represents, and because of that, an attack on the people of the United States. The demonstration was uncalled for and is a blot on the good name of Peru, one of our oldest and best friends in all of Latin America. I am saddened that the dignity and the honor of the people and the government of Peru was besmirched by this outrageous incident. Mr. Nixon is to be commended for the courage and dignity he displayed in meeting this and other unpleasant incidents which have occurred during his tour.

These incidents seem to indicate a well-developed and well thought-out pattern. (The net result may well be a strengthening of the already firm ties of friendship between our two countries and between this country and Latin America as a whole.) Out of these shameful episodes may come a better understanding and I know that the good sense and innate decency of the Peruvian government and the Peruvian people will prevail.

I would express the hope that President Eisenhower would, as a gesture of trust ^{+ understand only} and friendship, ^{official} extend an invitation to President Pardo to visit the United States. If he comes, he will be treated with the warmth, respect and dignity which are the bonds of brotherhood and friendship between Peru and the United States and, for that matter, between all ^{people} ~~men~~.